

Our purpose is to enable Iowa's students who are blind or visually impaired to function as independently as possible in all aspects of life by providing appropriate educational opportunities, resources, and support services.

1002 G Avenue
Vinton, IA 52349
1-319-472-5221
1-800-645-4579

For current offerings visit our web site

www.iowa-braille.k12.ia.us



We collaborate with:

- ✧ Area Education Agencies
- ✧ Camp Courageous
- ✧ Center for Disabilities and Development
- ✧ Deafblind Technical Assistance Team
- ✧ Department for the Blind
- ✧ Department of Education
- ✧ Easter Seals of Iowa - Camp Sunnyside
- ✧ Iowa School for the Deaf
- ✧ Local Education Agencies

For more information about the programs and services in this brochure contact the Iowa Braille School Regional Administrators and the Service Providers listed here:

Superintendent/Administrator Statewide System for Vision Services

Patrick Clancy – 800-645-4579, Extension 1132

pcclancy@iowa-braille.k12.ia.us

Regional Director – Eastern Iowa

Kay Jahnel – 800-645-4579, Extension 1131

kjahnel@iowa-braille.k12.ia.us

Regional Director – Western Iowa

Open

Service Providers, 1-800-645-4579

- ✧ **Assistive Technology Support**
Margaret Bateman – Extension 1336
Rosa Maurer – Extension 1117
- ✧ **Deafblind Technical Assistance**
Joan Pease – Extension 1002
- ✧ **Early Childhood Resources**
Jason Yessak – Extension 1027
- ✧ **Family Services**
Phyllis McGowan – Extension 1028
- ✧ **Support for Children with Additional Disabilities**
Phyllis McGowan – Extension 1028
Joan Pease – Extension 1002
Cindy White-Botello – Extension 1133
- ✧ **Library Services**
Extension 1230
- ✧ **Literary Services**
Margie Ortiguesen – Extension 1227
- ✧ **Low Vision Services**
East – Jim Judd – Extension 1050
West – Beth Pieters – 800-886-1716
- ✧ **Math and Science Resources**
Sara Larkin – Extension 1119
- ✧ **Special Education Services**
Cindy White-Botello – Extension 1133
Phyllis McGowan – Extension 1028
- ✧ **Transition Services**
Megan Johnson – 800-362-2587

Contact Your Local AEA for the Teacher of the Visually Impaired and the Orientation and Mobility Specialist in your area.



**Iowa
Braille School...**

**Heart of the Statewide
System for children
who are blind or
visually impaired**



What's new?

☛ **We provide training and support for ALL** who work with children and youth who are blind or visually impaired (including parents!) i.e. Check out our newest math/science opportunities! Check out our workshops and special weekends!

☛ **We provide programs regionally throughout Iowa.** See our web site for Expanded Core Curriculum programs near you!

☛ **Programs maximize skill development** in life skills, literacy, social skills, travel skills and more! Try our O and M camp and other special summer programs!

☛ **A new statewide system coordinates** service providers and regional activities for maximum effectiveness! Better stewardship of state funds!

☛ **We collaborate with the Iowa Department for the Blind** to ensure high school youth transition to adult services! Get prepared for living, working and learning!

☛ **We expanded early intervention services for little ones from birth through age three**, focusing on families, communication and social skill development! Meet other families just like you!



Tell me more!

'Statewide Services' means...
A person or a group of people are dedicated to meeting your needs wherever you live in Iowa and they will provide help right where you are. Some offerings include:

- ❖ Activity Days
- ❖ Assistive Device Center
- ❖ Assistive Technology Support
- ❖ Deafblind Technical Assistance
- ❖ Early Childhood Services
- ❖ Family Support and Transition Services
- ❖ Library Services Support for literacy development
- ❖ Math and Science Assistance
- ❖ STEM Initiatives (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)
- ❖ Support for Children with Additional Disabilities



'Regional Services' means...

As we learn about your child and other children in your area, we are able to identify similar needs allowing us to create programs that will then be offered in a region near you. Some offerings include:

- ❖ Activity Days
- ❖ Athletic participation
- ❖ Braille Note Club
- ❖ Family events - Trainings & networking opportunities
- ❖ Low Vision Clinics
- ❖ Math, Science and Technology days
- ❖ Recreation/Leisure

'On-Campus Services' means...

A program is offered in Vinion and includes not only daytime programming, but professional staff will also be working with your child throughout the evening in a residential setting. Transportation is available. Services may include:

A Residential program means...

Short term placement for intensive instruction and skill building in specific areas of the expanded core curriculum.

- ❖ Extended learning opportunities
- ❖ Summer School opportunities



What else is new?

Support is available for Children who have Visual Impairments and Additional Disabilities based upon the needs of the child. Support may include:

- ❖ resource materials
- ❖ consultations (home visit, at school, or by phone, email, or ICN)
- ❖ camp experiences
- ❖ collaboration with other agencies and service providers
- ❖ parent networking
- ❖ and more as special programs are developed

We provide Information and Resources for parents, educators and service providers including:

- ❖ Assessments
- ❖ Classroom and communication strategies
- ❖ Expanded Core Curriculum trainings
- ❖ Literacy and Library services
- ❖ Statewide trainings, conferences and workshops
- ❖ Summer Institutes
- ❖ Technology assistance and training

Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC) are

additional skills areas that must be taught due to vision loss:

- ❖ Assistive Technology
- ❖ Career Education
- ❖ Compensatory skills (things such as Braille and other adapted techniques students need to master to do academic work)
- ❖ Independent Living Skills
- ❖ Orientation and Mobility
- ❖ Recreation/Leisure
- ❖ Self Determination
- ❖ Social Interaction
- ❖ Sensory Efficiency Skills

